



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

June 2017 – The next regular MNS meeting will be held Thursday, June 15, 2017, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. June's program will be extended exhibits of any type.

President: Justin Perrault
Secretary: John Bleidorn
Sgt. at Arms: Jeff Gaffke
Trustee '17-'19: Dave Hunsicker
Librarian: Joe Paonessa

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Lee Hartz
Trustee '15-'17: Tom Dallmann
Trustee '16-'18: Gary Bieringer
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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). Our annual coin show is held in October.

June Coin of the Month: This month we have a 1970 US proof set in pristine condition which includes a silver clad half dollar. Catalog value of the half dollar by itself is \$16. Starting price of the entire proof set in the original plastic mint packaging is only \$12.00.



June 2017 MNS President's Message

The auction held at our last meeting did very well and netted a total of \$259 for all thirty-four lots. Thanks to everyone who bid and consigned. I am already looking forward to the next auction in November.

It would appear that we are lacking a member to bring refreshments to our June meeting. If you would like to contribute to this cause please let me know as soon as you receive the newsletter so that I can mark you down. Otherwise, as in meetings past, we will simply have to go without for a month. Our programming for the next meeting will consist of an expanded show-and-tell session, so feel free to dig through your collections and bring in something you have always wanted to share. It does not even necessarily have to be strictly numismatic in nature.

It was proposed and approved by the membership at the last meeting that the order of our monthly meetings be altered. Instead of addressing the regular business matters of the meeting, we will now be putting this off until the latter half of the meeting. The opening portion of the meeting will be reserved for show-and-tell and any of the most pressing business that simply cannot wait. It is the hope that this will encourage new members to enjoy the meetings more and not be turned off by "boring" club business. We will give this a go for a trial basis at least through the end of the year and then revisit it to discuss its effectiveness.

In an effort to facilitate some discussion and reminiscing among the membership, I would like to propose that you write to our newsletter editor in response to one or all of the following questions: (1) What is the greatest circulation find you ever acquired?; (2) Have you ever gone to extreme lengths to swap or trade currency at face value with someone else?; (3) Did you ever sell a portion of your collection only to greatly regret it at a later date? You can also respond to these questions and submit them to the editor at our meeting. It would be interesting to see some responses.

We recently received some correspondence from the ANA where they provide member clubs a total of ten free ANA memberships to be provided to our members. If anyone reading is not an ANA member, or if your membership has lapsed for over a year, then please let me know if you would like to take advantage of this. We may also use some as door prizes. However, I want to make sure that members who want ANA membership or have never been a member can take advantage of this opportunity. This would be at the "gold" membership level, which comes with a one-year digital subscription to the *Numismatist* and all ANA resources, valued at \$28.

I look forward to seeing you at the June meeting; don't forget to bring your best and most interesting show-and-tell items!

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

MN\$ 2017

Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19:	Officer Inductions
Feb 16:	Open
March 16:	Rev. Paul Bulgerin: Numismatic Archaeology
April 20:	Dave Hunsicker: Milwaukee Transportation Collectables
April 27:	CSNS Bus Trip (8 AM-5 PM)
May 18:	Spring Auction
June 15:	Expanded Show and Tell
July 20:	Tom Casper: Collecting, Buying, and Selling on E-Bay
Aug 17:	NO MEETING
Aug 19:	Summer Outing at Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear (10 AM) 839 N. 11 th Street, Milwaukee
Sept 21:	Open
Oct 19:	Raffle Ticket Prize Drawing
Nov 16:	Autumn Auction; Election Slate
Dec 21:	Holiday Party; Officer Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2017 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

2017 Numismatic Events

June 10	Barron County Coin Club Show 2900 S. Main St. Rice Lake, WI Cedar Mall: 9:30-3 PM
August 13	Beaver Dam Coin Show 300 Beichl Ave. American Legion: 9-3 PM
August 20	Fond du Lac Coin Show 625 W. Rolling Meadows Holiday Inn: 9-4 PM
September 24	Loves Park, IL Coin Show 1601 West Lane Road Forest Hill Lodge: 9-3 PM
October 1	MNS Coin Show, Serb Hall 9 AM – 4 PM
October 21	MNS Banquet, Alioto's Drinks at 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM

Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Dave Herrwig
Feb:	Jim Heinrich
Mar:	John Bleidorn
Apr:	Tom Dallmann
May:	Justin Perrault
Jun:	Open
Jul:	Open
Aug:	NO MEETING
Sep:	Open
Oct:	Open
Nov:	Open
Dec:	Holiday Party

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes May 18, 2017

President Justin Perrault called the 979th meeting of the MNS to order at 7:05 PM. There were 18 members in attendance and no guests. The president led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Door prizes were won by: Dave Hunsicker, Dave Herrewig, Peter Jacobsohn, Justin Perrault, Tom Ralston, Tom Dallman, Tom Snyder, Steve Jacobson, Harry Siaggas, Leon Adrakas, Gary Bieringer, Chris Kantak.

Coin of the Month: Steve Jacobson won the coin of the month, a 2004 Westward Journey nickel set, with a winning bid of \$8.00.

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of recently departed MNS member Bob Henson.

Treasurer's Report: May showed receipts of \$175.00 and \$526.17 in disbursements, for a negative net cash flow of \$351.17.

Correspondence: *Numismatist*, misc. literature from the ANA, thank you card from family of Bob Henson.

Programming: There is need for volunteers to bring refreshments to the June and July meetings. Additional programs presentation suggestions are also appreciated.

New Business: Neil Shafer proposed motion that the business meeting portion of the evenings be conducted last, 2nd by Tom Dallmann, to be continued on a trial basis through the end of the year.

Old Business: The CSNS show bus trip was a success. Partial reimbursement request was submitted to the Central States treasurer and should be forthcoming.

Show and Tell: Robert Mathieu spoke on the 1776 Fugio Continental Currency. Neil Shafer presented a Discovery of America medal from the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Peter Jacobsohn showed historical dentistry artifacts and a Dental Academy Medal issued on occasion of their 1990 sesquicentennial.

Meeting adjourned briefly at 7:53 PM for refreshments. Auction commenced at 8:10 PM with Dave Hunsicker leading as official auctioneer. Thirty-four lots sold for a total of \$259.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM by President Perrault

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary Justin Perrault



MNS Member Andy Kimmel does waiter duty at the CSNS awards breakfast.

THE 78TH ANNIVERSARY CSNS CONVENTION

by Tom Casper

The 78th anniversary Central States Numismatic Society convention was another well organized and successful coin show organized by Chairman Kevin Foley and his talented staff. Kevin has run more shows than anyone in the U.S. The show was held at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Schaumburg, Illinois from April 24-29, 2017. The Milwaukee Numismatic Society and the South Shore Coin Club sponsored the gold coin prizes in the Medals category of the competitive exhibits. On Thursday, the MNS chartered a bus for the show with 23 members aboard. The show was very busy with lots of activities. I'll touch on a few highlights.

The show had 282 booths with 889 dealers registered to those booths. Thirteen clubs and societies also took tables. Dealers were very satisfied with the public traffic which kept them busy all three days. Heritage Sales of Dallas conducted five auction sessions over three days. The auctions were for U.S. coins, U.S. currency and foreign currency. The highlight of their sales was lot #4356 at the Platinum Night sale. The coin was an 1866 Liberty Double Eagle, PR65 Cameo. Only 30 pieces were made and this piece is one of only ten known. The estimate was \$300,000 or more. The coin sold for \$517,000 with the buyer's premium (see elsewhere in this issue for an article).

The CSNS has outstanding competitive exhibits. There were 52 competitive exhibits totaling 196 cases. Three noncompetitive exhibits totaled 14 cases. There were two first time exhibitors and the exhibitors came from 11 states. All exhibitors received a 1 oz. silver round depicting the state seal of Kentucky. The two people on the seal, a pioneer and a statesman, represent all the people. They are acting out the meaning of Kentucky's motto, "United We Stand; Divided We Fall". In the succeeding years, the state seal of each of the 13 states within the Central States region will be featured.

Here is a list of MNS members who won exhibit awards: 2nd Place: Floyd Aprill, US Philippines Half Centavos (1903-1908); 1st Place: Bruce Bartelt, From Croesus to Caesar: western coinage until the dominance of Rome; 3rd Place: Nancy Wilson, Great Britain's Last Decimal Issue; 2nd Place: Nancy Wilson, Ecuador Specimen Set Series of 1928; 1st Place: Tom Casper, Milwaukee Civil War Tokens; 3rd Place: Nancy Wilson, Postage Stamp Scrip Notes; 1st Place: Jason Paonessa, Ancient Coin Project.

There were many educational programs. Dealer Glen Jorde gave a two-day seminar on paper money grading. Robert Campbell talked about Morgan dollars. Andrew Kimmel spoke on artificial vs. natural toning. Peter Huntoon spoke on building a national bank note collection. Cindy Wibker gave an overview of exnumia. Because my wife says I have too much stuff, she attended the Chicago Coin Club talk on how and when to sell your collection. Dave & Heidi Heinrich put on a program for YN's on Saturday with a treasure hunt and identifying foreign coins from a catalog to earn the coin. The ever-present coin roller, Ray Dillard, was at the front of the hall handing out his complimentary elongated cent. His elongated this year featured the logo of the Chicago Cubs, the baseball pennant winner from 2016.

If you missed attending this year's show, mark your calendar for next year's 79th anniversary convention which will be on April 25-28, 2018 at the same location. We are very fortunate to have such a great show so close to Wisconsin.



2017 CSNS silver medal



2017 CSNS elongated cent

Rest in Peace

Robert "Bob" A. Henson

1940-2017

Of Milwaukee, passed away April 27, 2017. Bob was a dedicated member of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society. The club extends its condolences to his wife children and family.

Rare coin brings \$418K to church

DOUG ROSS

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WASHINGTON TWP. — GracePoint Church Pastor Ben Lamb was on the edge of his seat Thursday, staring at the computer as his church's fate hung in the balance.

The 1866 Double Eagle coin with the "In God We Trust" motto donated to Lamb's church, one of only 10 known surviving examples, was up for auction online. U.S. Mint records show only 30 of the proof coins were made, according to Sarah Miller, director of numismatics at Heritage Auctions.

"I sat there for four hours on the edge of my seat waiting for the coin to go up for bids," Lamb said. "Once our part of the auction went officially live, and I saw the bids flying fast, I instantly began to cry. Tears of joy. Tears of gratitude. It seemed like the longest two minutes in the world."

The coin donated to his church, which had an estimated value of \$300,000, sold for \$440,000, which gives the church \$418,000 after the 5 percent auction fees, Lamb said. The buyer had to pay \$517,000 because of the buyer's premium



PROVIDED

This rare coin, worth an estimated \$300,000, has proven a blessing for GracePoint Church, a nondemoninational church in Porter County's Washington Township.

auction fees.

On top of the \$150,000 already advanced to GracePoint, the church will receive an additional \$268,000.

GracePoint, which has met at Washington Township Elementary School since 2009, is building a new structure.

The anonymous donor is a widow whose husband bought the coin in 1993. Four years ago, the coin survived an attempted theft at her home.

Numismatic Trench Art

By Tom Casper

Ordinary, trench art was made by soldiers from brass shells or artillery casings which were readily available during WWII. But also used were coins from the countries they were passing through or stationed in which we call numismatic trench art. Our troops were in many different foreign countries from 1941-45. This explains why so many of these items found in the United States appear on foreign coins. I am showing here five pieces from my collection, four of which are made with Australian coins and one piece with Icelandic coins. Almost 1 million American service personnel passed through Australia, our ally, during WWII. They started arriving there in December, 1941. The American servicemen and women were camped in major cities, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, as they trained and prepared to be sent to the Pacific front. They were well accepted by the Australians. More than 12,000 Australian women became American war brides, most of whom returned to the US with their new husbands at the end of the war. This explains why trench art on Australian coins are so prevalent.

Fig. 1. A WWII victory pin. It is made from a bronze, brass plated Australian penny, 1938-1952. It is cutout in the shape of a V, for victory, showing the country name across the top with a kangaroo below. The kangaroo is an unofficial symbol of Australia and appears as an emblem on the Australian coat of arms. On the back is a bust of George VI and a pin for wearing.

Fig. 2. Pin. It is made from two silver Australian coins. The pin bar reads Australia and shows reeding across the top with a pin on the back and was cut from an Australian Shilling, 1938-1950. The suspended pendant was cut from a 1944 Australian Florin into the shape of a heart.

Fig. 3. Bracelet coin. It was made from a silver, 1943-S Australian Florin. Soldered on the coin reverse are crossed cannons, the U.S. insignia for a field artillery unit. The two holes indicates it was probably a center coin in a bracelet.

Fig. 4. Hammered coin ring. This ring is made from a silver, Australian Florin, 1938-1945. Attached to the front of the ring is a silver heart. These rings were made by pounding or hammering the edge of a coin while rotating it. The coin got wider and smaller. The center of the coin is then cutout and the coin becomes a ring. The legends around the edges of the coin roll over when pounded and can be read on the inside of the ring. The heart was probably cut from the center plug cut out of the ring. The inscription on the inside of the ring reads, "GEORGIUS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP//*FIO+RIN* Australia".

The last piece is from Iceland, a country that most people don't realize played a role in WWII. Iceland was a neutral independent kingdom in union with Denmark. At the start of the war Britain offered assistance to Iceland seeking cooperation as an ally. Iceland reaffirmed its neutrality. Fearing Germany would occupy the country because of its strategic importance, Britain invaded Iceland on May 10, 1940. Britain and Canada occupied Iceland until June 16, 1941 when U.S. troops were sent there to relieve them with the U.S. staying there until the end of the war.

Fig. 5. Three-Coin Brooch. This piece is made from three bronze Iceland coins; two, 1942, 1 Eyrir coins; one, 2 Aurar coin which is engraved "Iceland 1942". A pin is mounted on the back.

While some of these pieces were carried, or worn by the servicemen who made them, many of the trench art coins, sometimes called sweetheart jewelry, were made with their girlfriend, wife or mother in mind and were sent home. Just maybe one of these pieces was brought home to the U.S. by one of the Australian war brides.

Numismatic Trench Art



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5